

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of

Masaaki Hikosaka, et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith

Examiner: Unknown

For: HARD DISK UNIT, INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD AND  
PROGRAM

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

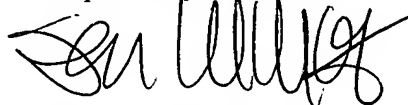
Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following document listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. A copy of the listed document is provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner. In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), the relevance of this document is discussed on page 1 of the subject application. Further, an English-language Abstract is attached to the reference.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the reference is relevant or material to the claims. It is only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

It is respectfully requested that the listed reference be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record in this application.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,



Sean M. McGinn, Esq.  
Registration No. 34,386

Date: 3/25/04

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

**C14-167089M/TRK**

Application Number

**Not Yet Assigned**

Applicant(s)

**Masaaki Hikosaka, et al.**

Filing Date

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Group Art Unit

**Not Yet Assigned**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		<b>2000-311114</b>	<b>11/07/2000</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>ABS</b>	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.